



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
and City of East St. Louis Partnership Meeting
Tuesday, July 17, 2019



Participants

Robert Eastern III, Mayor, ESTL
Brooke Smith, City Manager, ESTL
Sarah Joshway, Executive Assistant, ESTL
Rochelle Marceillars, ESTL Community Lead, US EPA
Mickey Jencius, Clean Air Strategies Manager, US EPA

Recap of Meeting (other topics discussed are included in presentation distributed)

1. Clean-Up in ESTL

- Dumping is a big problem in the city from others outside of city
- Requested EPA assistance in facilitating the clean-up effort
- Mayor will request assistance from Governor in using national guards
- Tire pick-up 3rd week of September w/Illinois EPA Collinsville regional office
- City now has tire shredder; additional information to be provided to EPA (any permits?)
- Set-up mechanism for tire shops and how they're disposing of the tires
- Mayor Eastern upcoming meeting with surrounding Mayors will discuss this illegal dumping issue

2. Illegal Dumping Training

- Call scheduled Thursday, July 18th with ESTL Police Chief and Director of Regulatory Affairs Department, Illinois EPA Springfield and Collinsville regional offices and federal EPA to discuss illegal dumping training for law enforcement officers in ESTL and surrounding areas
- Workplan to be developed by collaborative partners that will include deterrents to stop individuals from coming into the city and illegally dumping items and leaving

3. Marybelle Avenue (near stadium, down Kings highway main corridor, RTE 255)

- EPA requested map of area discussed
- Feds brought homes; currently wetlands
- Water is high and continues to rise
- Surrounding areas are neighborhoods; this problem poses health issues for the residents

4. Flooding Issues

- Serious mold problem in residential homes; health concern for residents
- Combined sanitary/sewage flood water flows into lake where residents fish
- Furnaces in homes damaged due to flooding; residents cannot afford to purchase another furnace; other items used to heat homes (stoves, space heaters, etc)

5. ESTL Port Initiative

- EPA connected the City with the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration contact to discuss the Port Initiative
- Newly appointed ESTL City Manager (Brooke Smith) and Director, Inland Waterways Gateway Office (Branden Leay Criman) met on Tuesday, June 18th
- Mrs. Criman has offered her services and will work with ESTL on their Port initiative

6. HUD Community Development Block Grant

- City working on requesting and managing grant again instead of St. Claire County (4-year grant contract)
- EPA to schedule meeting with HUD to discuss ESTL CDBG and who are HUD's ESTL contacts
- Major health issue in library due to HVAC system out (funding from grant will assist in repairing or purchasing a new system)

7. HUD Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant

- Gompers revitalization; June Hamilton, Director, Community and Economic Development to contact EPA; EPA can provide technical assistance in the planning process. City matching \$250,000 for project

7. EPA Brownsfield Grant

- City will attend upcoming Brownsfield workshop on August 6th in Belleville, IL at the Shrine Restaurant and Banquet Center

8. IDHA Grant

- \$9 million grant for Broadview Hotel; additional funding needed (approximately \$21 million)
- 18 months before construction can begin
- EPA will look for additional funding resources for project

9. ESTL School District 189

- EPA would like to partner with school district; Mayor Eastern offered to arrange a meeting with EPA, the school board members and park district; EPA will provide a date in the near future
- Electric School Bus (Volkswagen Settlement) for ESTL; Funding from Illinois EPA @ \$750,00 and additional funding from Ameren @ \$40,000 totaling \$790,000 for an electric school bus and charging station. Illinois Central (contractor) bus service to pay \$25,000; bus service not interested. Mayor Eastern will contact school board to find out what happened

10. Community Day

- ESTL sponsoring “Community Day” in September to include a variety of vendors, giveaways, etc.
- EPA willing to participate and provide a host of environmental and health information to the community